

POOR ORIGINAL

MAY 10 1978 Distribution:

Docket No. 50-346

Toledo Edison Company
ATTN: Mr. Lowell E. Roe
Vice President
Facilities Development
300 Madison Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43652

Docket File
LWR 1 File
NRC PDR
LPDR
IE (3)
OELD
JStolz
RMartin
EHilton
HSmith
FWilliams
RReid

RIngram
GVissing
RBoyd
RDeYoung
LCrocker
DVassallo
JKnight
RBosnak

bcc: ACRS (16)
NSIC
TIC

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: PWR REACTOR VESSEL SEAL RING MISSILE PROBLEM
DAVIS-BESSE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT 1

During the course of responding to the staff's review of an application for license amendment on the Trojan Nuclear Plant, the licensee informed the NRC that the reactor cavity annulus seal ring (used as a water seal during refueling operations, and not removed during normal operations) and associated biological shielding over the reactor vessel cavity could become missiles in the event of a loss of coolant accident (LOCA) pipe break inside the reactor vessel cavity. At the Trojan Nuclear Plant, these missiles could affect the ability of the control rods to shut down the reactor. From our preliminary evaluation of the information provided to the NRC staff by the licensee, the Portland General Electric Company and by Westinghouse, Combustion Engineering, Babcock & Wilcox and Bechtel in telephone discussions on January 25 and 26, 1978, it appears that this problem could occur in other PWR facilities such as yours and could potentially pose a threat to the health and safety of the public in the event of a LOCA.

Therefore, you are hereby requested to deliver to the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C., 20555, within 20 days of the date of this letter, the following information: (a) a statement as to whether the cavity annulus seal ring in your facility is left in place during normal operation or if biological shielding is installed in the reactor cavity annulus and, if the answer to (a) is yes; (b) when you will determine whether the cavity annulus seal ring or biological shielding could become a missile in your facility, and (c) a description of what you plan to do, and when, if the problem is found at your facility and (d) justification to support why continued operation will not create undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

Sincerely,

JF

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GD

OFFICE			John F. Stolz, Chief	
SURNAME			Light Water Reactors Branch No. 1	
DATE			Division of Project Management	

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MAY 1978

Toledo Edison Company

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cc: Donald H. Hauser, Esq.
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OFFICE ▶	LWR 1:LA	LWR 1:LPM	DSS	LWR 1:BC		
SURNAME ▶	BScott	LEngel	JKnight	JStolz		
DATE ▶	3/6/78	3/7/78	3/7/78	3/9/78		